

## **Moran Brings President's Health Care Administrator to Kansas**

*Administrator Thomas Scully to Meet with Kansas Health Officials and Tour Hospital*

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Congressman Jerry Moran today announced that the Administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Thomas Scully, will visit Kansas on Tuesday, May 27, 2003. The visit will allow the Administrator to meet with Kansas health officials and see first-hand the circumstances facing health care in the state.

"This is a great opportunity for Kansas to have a top health care official in the Bush Administration out to see the challenges and difficulties that our health care providers face in serving small communities," Moran said. "Although I have met with numerous health officials in Washington, D.C., they cannot truly have an appreciation for what our hospitals, doctors, nursing homes, ambulance operators, pharmacists and home health agencies face in Kansas until they come and see things for themselves."

Moran chairs the Rural Health Care Coalition (RHCC) with Congressman Earl Pomeroy (D-ND), who will also join the Administrator's visit to Kansas. During the visit, the group will tour the Rush County Hospital in Lacrosse. Administrator Scully will also hold a public meeting in Hays with health care leaders from across the state. Discussion will include hospital administrators, nursing home directors, doctors, nurses, home health staff, ambulance operators, health educators and representatives from other health care related fields.

Two of my top priorities are to make beneficiaries more aware of the services available to them from Medicare and to listen to patients, doctors, nurses and other providers about their concerns and experiences with CMS so that we can better serve them," Administrator Scully said. "I also want to make sure that we maintain affordable health care services for people who live in rural America. That's why I so appreciate Congressman Moran's leadership in this area and welcome the opportunity to visit Kansas."

"By meeting with leaders of health care in our state, I hope to show the Administrator our situation and work on positive solutions for the future," Moran concluded.

This year, Moran has introduced legislation to improve Medicare funding for health care providers in order to improve access to health care services in small communities.

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